

Springdale Fire Department

Policy & Procedures Manual

Volume 3 – Training

Section 301 – General Training Procedures

301.3 – Live Fire Training in Acquired Structures

Occasionally, the Springdale Fire Department is able to use acquired structures for live fire training. This is as close to actual firefighting experience as can be simulated. The potential exists, in these structures and scenarios, for rapidly changing and hostile conditions to develop. As such, safety is our primary concern.

In many cases these structures present significant hazards to participants and/or the environment. Prior to any commitment of Springdale Fire Department resources, the structure will be inspected for asbestos by a state licensed asbestos inspector. This is to satisfy requirements of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.

Making the structure safe for participants may require removal of exposures, stored fuel, installation of handrails and flooring, etc. Because of the hazards associated with live fire training, a thorough inspection of the property must be made before any Springdale Fire Department employee participates. ONLY after an inspection, or re-inspection by the Springdale Fire Department Training Officer (or his designee), in which the property is found safe, will permission to burn be granted. This inspection will be documented on a Live Fire Training Inspection Form.

In addition, all required checklists and forms associated with live fire training are available from the Training Division (SFD Forms>Training>Live Fire Training Safety Documentation). The thorough completion of all documents is mandatory in order to conduct any live fire training in an acquired structure. This is to assure adherence to NFPA 1403 (2007 edition) Standard for Live Fire Training, which is the national standard for firefighter safety during this type of evolution.